

SPORTS

SWIMMING

Last Sunday's 3rd national synchronized swimming championship in the swimming pool of the Moscow Olimpiyskiy Sports Complex was first to be held under the auspices of a recently instituted federation embracing 2,000 performers from 27 Soviet cities.

Of participants from seven Union republics, the USSR state coach Igor Bugayev. Even though the scores went to already famous Moscow competitors, 16-year-old Yelena Osipova who won the overall title and her partner Irina Polyankina who snatched two titles for the pair, and group composition, they had a rather tough time from younger competitors.

The performances last Sunday offered trainers the basis for the selection of a national team for its first yet European junior championship due on August 16-19 at the Hague, Holland.

Yelena Dolzhenko, 17, who won the bronze in the individual programme, has been practicing the sport for only three years. Her cherished goal is to make the European final. Her teammates in the national junior team Irina Zimkova and Olga Belova who did well in the duet event, are also in a fighting mood.

It is believed that the rising skills of the girls offer good hopes for the USSR to present a fairly strong team for the 1985 European championship in Sofia and the 1986 Madrid world championship.

Valeriya MIRONOVA



National champions Irina Polyankina and Yelena Osipova in action. Photo by Andrei Knyazev

26th MEDAL FOR SERGEI KOPYLOV

At the just ended national championships on the Kayak slalom Olympic cycling track in Moscow, 24-year-old Sergei Kopylov of Leningrad won two gold medals and is now considered to be one of the main favorites in the "Friendship-84" tournament scheduled for Moscow in late August.

In our previous issue we carried a report on triple world champion Sergei Kopylov's 1,000 m time trial wins. Last Sunday he won his favourite sport event where he twice won

the world title in an event closely contested with Alexander Panfilov of Sverdlovsk. 1983 Games time trials silver medalist. In the past year or two Panfilov has followed Kopylov's system of combining time trials with sprint, which has bore his performance considerably. Finishing third in the race was junior ex-world champion, 19-year-old Nikolai Kovsh of Moscow.

For Kopylov his latest win brought up to 26 the number of his gold awards.

YURI TITOV ELECTED PRESIDENT

Yuri Titov, 48, of the USSR, was elected president of the International Gymnastic Federation for a third term at the authoritative organization's recent Congress. He was first elected to this office in 1976.

A Merited Master of Sport, he was overall world champion in 1963. He also won the Olympic team title in 1968.

Our editorial office, which organizes annual International "Moscow News" gymnastics competitions is in constant touch with Yuri Titov.

As our long-time friend we wish him good health and success in his work as President of IGF.

THE SCORE IS 7-7 SO FAR...

Wimbledon champion American John McEnroe and five times Wimbledon winner Swede Bjorn Borg who left competitive sports two years ago will hold an exhibition match in Kansas City, Missouri, this September, according to an Associated Press report.

The idea belongs to McEnroe who still has no edge over his rival, the score of their matches being 7-7 so far. McEnroe won when they met in the US open championships in 1981.

Games without champions

From July 28 to August 12 Los Angeles will be the scene for the 23rd Olympics but conspicuously absent from the Games are sportsmen from the USSR and most socialist nations.

One of the most attractive aspects of sports is keen competition out of which the ablest emerges in a hard-fought and honest contest. From this standpoint the present Games cannot, regrettably, provide a true idea of the balance of power in most Olympic sports. According to the Bratislava "Pravda" newspaper, 50 per cent of the world champions in various sporting activities will be missing from the Los Angeles Games. None are attending such events as weightlifting, modern pentathlon, basketball, and handball. The percentage of champions in boxing, and Czecho-Roman and freestyle wrestling that will be absent from the Games is 75. Even in athletics the figure stands at over 54 per cent.

The Games' Organizing Committee and the US administration, especially, have done all they could to keep the USSR away from Los Angeles. Anti-Soviet campaigns, threats of physical violence and libellous statements were matched by disciplinary demands breaching the Olympic Charter, forcing Soviet sportsmen to decline participation in these all-important Games.

But what purpose did the anti-Soviet hysteria serve? Indeed in the Games has declined, instantly affecting the ticket sales, and technical performance has been the standards. In fact, the organizers were interested in other things, which surfaced most graphically on the opening day.

A Department spokesman in Washington said that three Latvians were refused visas for security reasons. The spokesman said that they had been barred from the Games only when they refused to board a plane bound for Los Angeles.

The president of the Olympic Committee of the USSR, Leonid Brezhnev, claimed that it was not his responsibility to make sure whether they were or not. He said: "We have a government decision that the Committee, being a state corporation, had to do it, and that the Council would take no action in the case."

A joint statement issued at the closing session of the meeting, among other things, said the plenipotentiary and working group sessions conducted urgent steps needed to bring the arms race, the situation in Europe and the Third World, as well as Soviet and American policies to general security and disarmament.

Brazil refuses to compete

Brazil will not take part in the Los Angeles Games even though the competition is on.

According to the Brazilian Olympic authorities, an unknown person stole his way into the stadium and slashed a horse of Gross of West Germany won the 200 m freestyle in 1:47.44, while Steve Lundquist of the USA took the 100 m breaststroke in 1:05.65.

Two gold medals went to China. Xu Hailong won the free photo, and Zeng Guylang triumphed in the under-52 weightlifting division totalling 235 kg. According to specialists, this result have disqualified him from competing in the 1983 top six world championships. By way of comparison Moscow Olympics winner Yuriy Vasyukov of the USSR totalling 245 kg, while the world record of 260 kg belongs to Neno Terdzsky of Bulgaria.

Police and the Olympic Committee members responsible for security in Santa Anita park where the Olympic Games are being held, claim that this was merely an accident. One of the athletes even went so far as to claim that the horse had cut itself on the metal plate at the stall.

It seems there are too many accidents taking place at the Los Angeles Olympics.

MONGOLIAN PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC

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Libya stays out

Only several hours before the Los Angeles Games took off Libya announced its decision to attend in protest over discriminatory measures by the US State Department against Libya.

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First results

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Soviet-American mutual understanding is vital

Between July 30-August 2, 1984, Moscow Friendship House saw the site of the second meeting of public representatives of the USSR and USA. Problems in Soviet-American relations and disarmament, a dialogue jointly initiated by the USSR-USA Society, the USA and Canadian Academy of Sciences, and the Institute for Policy Studies of Washington, were among matters deliberated upon at the meeting.

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Vienna. Numerous state flags flying in the facade of the Salzburg Palace, where over one hundred and thirty countries are taking part in the 4th General Conference of UNIDO (United Nations Industrial Development Organization). The Soviet delegation is led by Mr. Kruglov, Chairman of the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology.

Addressing the delegates in an opening address, the UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar stressed the importance of UNIDO as a universal organization called upon to promote the industrialization process of developing countries and to serve the purposes of wider cooperation on global, regional and national levels. The UN Secretary-General noted that UNIDO can help perform its tasks under

conditions of peace and international security. He pointed out that the international organization must contribute as far as it can to a lasting peace.

Making states on force, escalation of the arms race and subordination of economic relations to policies of aggression stand in the way of resolving the key problems of world economic development.

The imperialist powers, the USA in the first place, use all sorts of political and economic pressure to force young states to shoulder the burdens of economic crisis, while continuing to step up its exploitation, create conditions which would allow their economies to be penetrated by foreign capital and transnational corporations, thus impeding the economic development of these countries.

INTERNATIONAL GEOLOGICAL CONGRESS



Some 5,500 scientists and specialists from over 90 countries have gathered in the Soviet capital for the 27th International Geological Congress to deliberate on over a hundred geological problems. Participants will hear 2,500 reports, hold 46 symposia and six colloquia. "Geology of the Soviet Union", "Problems of the Arctic", "The World Ocean", "Mineral Resources" are among the topics to be discussed.

Also participating in the Congress are the International Union of Geological Sciences, the International Geological Correlation Programme, and over 90 UNESCO and UNEP bodies and other international organizations. 500 leading scientists from all over the world helped prepare the programme of the Congress.



These women participate in a demonstration in Bonn, the capital of the FRG, to protest against the continuing arms race and the deployment of new US nuclear first-strike missiles in Western Europe.

'PEACE AUTUMN' IN WEST GERMANY

Bonn. "Peace Autumn-84" is the programme of action, approved by the coordination committee of the West German peace movement, which will include nationwide protest marches against the deployment of Pershing-2 missiles. The slogan in West Germany of new American nuclear first-strike weapons, the committee appeals points out, has aggravated world tensions, and West German security has diminished rather than otherwise.

Meanwhile the conservative alliance of Christian Democratic and Christian Social Unions is

mounting a slanderous campaign against West German peace advocates, to a point where Minister of the Interior Friedrich Zimmermann of the CDU prepared a draft law giving wider powers to the police in breaking up peace demonstrations and arresting their members. The police has repeatedly used force against residents of a peace camp near the American military base at Mutlangen where the first batteries of Pershing-2 missiles have already been installed. Despite this vicious campaign, activists of the anti-missile movement are resolved to carry on their drive.

Politbureau weekly meeting

The Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee has discussed further improvement of public transportation in the country. It mapped out measures to ensure the smooth operation of all types of transportation, to build up the production and technical base of transport organizations and accelerate introduction of automated control systems for ticket sales and traffic. Special attention was focused on staffing in transportation network and on improving the working and living conditions of drivers, train attendants, controllers and other transportation workers.

The Politbureau also approved of measures suggested by the USSR Council of Ministers for developing automated design systems and their application in the national economy.

The meeting approved of a decision of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers on measures to ensure the commissioning of the Yamburg gas condensate field in the Tyumen Region.

Similarly the Politbureau approved of the outcome of the meeting between Mikhail Gorbachev and Boris Ponomarev on the one hand, and Chairman of the German Communist Party

(Continued on page 2)

PRESS TIME FOR COSMONAUTS

The Balkonur space centre sends off crews into space and welcomes them on their return. Now, the southern sun, too, is warmly greeting Vladimir Dzhanibekov, Svetlana Savitskaya and Igor Volk who are now back from space after a spell aboard the Salyut-7 space station.

The cosmonauts are currently undergoing medical checkup, writing up reports on their scientific experiments and, together with specialists assessing the performance of the space devices and experimental equipment.

Together with his comrades, Igor Volk planted a smooth-leaved elm—the traditional tree to commemorate his first space mission. There is a big-shady grove planted by cosmonauts after their space flights and Igor is the 58th. 11 trees were planted by foreign spacemen who flew aboard Soyuz spacecraft.

Pressmen, too, are eager to associate with the cosmonauts. They have seized every opportunity to question them on their impressions and results. In his capacity as flight commander Vladimir Dzhanibekov summarized the programme. He said it chiefly contained new experiments, was interesting and had much practical value. Svetlana Savitskaya, the first space female welder, talked about experiments conducted with advanced technological equipment in outer space. She said the versatile tools performed wonderfully just as had been expected by their developers. It was fascinating to perform all those operations in weightlessness, she added. Though a fairly reserved person, Svetlana could not help making remarks about the beauty of our planet and the importance of rallying people the world over, including cosmonauts, to preserve it forever.

Igor Volk who was in charge of scientific research said that the mission provided new and important data on space medicine, biology and technology. Meanwhile, Leonid Kizim, Vladimir Solovoyov and Oleg Atkov have resumed their routine aboard the Salyut-7 orbiting station. Though they have been in space for six months medical specialists note that their working ability and cheerful disposition have not been affected in any way. They are conducting a new series of astrophysical research and have also started a biological experiment with equipment placed on the exterior of the spaceship.



Moskva River viewed from the Boroditsky Bridge. Photo by Andrei Knyazev

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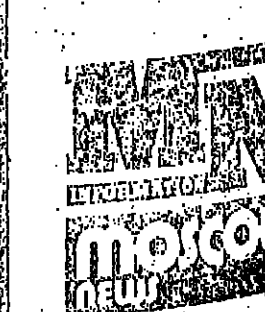
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Nicaragua getting ready for elections

Managua. The campaign had been started in Nicaragua for the general elections to take place on November 4, 1984.

The genuinely democratic elections the preparation to which takes place in the atmosphere of complete respect for civil rights and liberties, will become the first such event in that country's history.

Despite the bloody terror unleashed by the US hirelings, the attempt not to allow the voters' registration to take place has been frustrated. According to the supreme election council, 1,400,000 voters have been registered, more than could be expected. Numerous mass rallies were held in the country over

the past week at which Nicaraguans declared their support for Daniel Ortega and Sergio Ramirez, the Sandinist National Liberation Front candidates for president and vice-president of the republic.

Bayardo Arce, coordinator of the political commission of the Sandinist National Liberation Front, called the mass participation in the election process another important victory over the hostile intrigues of the US imperialists. Addressing a rally in a working people's Managua district, he called upon the Nicaraguans to be ready to repel more aggressive actions being planned by the Reagan administration.

India is anxious

Delhi. India is seriously concerned with large-scale deliveries of American weapons to Pakistan and the escalation by the USA of its military presence in the Indian Ocean. Prime Minister Indira Gandhi said in an address to Parliament. She said Pakistan had deployed latest US-made arms on its border with India, and that India had no doubts whatsoever that those weapons would be used against India.

US arms supplies are poisoning the atmosphere on the South Asian subcontinent at a time when India is persisting in her desire to create in South Asia a situation of peace and good-neighbourly relations. In this regard, Indira Gandhi said that India could not put up with the deliveries of the US weapons.

The head of the Indian Government told the MPs that India's concern over US arms supplies to Pakistan had been expressed by the Indian Government, and also to Vice-President George Bush during his last visit to India but the American side did not pay attention to India's position.

Libya condemns USA

New York. Libya has protested to the UN over America's military banditry, as the USA recently carried out a large-scale aggressive act against this sovereign nation. The Secretary of the Bureau for External Relations of Libya Ali Abdel Salam al-Treiki sent a letter to UN Secretary-General J. Perez de Cuellar stressing that US terrorist attacks on his country were creating a dangerous situation.

The letter stresses that early in the morning of July 26 American 8th Fleet planes violated Libyan air space. The provocation, which lasted more than 12 hours, involved 164 planes, some of which penetrated about 10 to 15 kilometres inside the air space.

The document further notes that such actions create much danger for civil aviation flight and jeopardize peace and security in the whole region. Al-Treiki charged that Libya reserved the right to take all necessary measures to protect its air space and territorial waters.



The modern "samurai sword" (American variant).

Drawing by M. Abramov

STRIFE IN THE AFGHAN COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY CAMP

New York. Reports coming from Islamabad say Pakistani authorities have offered the Afghan counterrevolutionary emigration leaders to move their headquarters from the town of Peshawar to the so-called Afghan refugee camps. One of the reasons behind the move are the attempts to head off aggression of competition between the warring counterrevolutionary factions, whose unceasing

strife is doing much material and moral damage to the local people. That the enmity among them has grown into an open war, is testified, specifically, by an attempted murder of Gulanddin Hekmatyar, who leads one of the major groupings—"Hezbe Islami". In this connection the Pakistani political circles have emphasized the mounting competition among the emigration "chiefs" of various shades to

Politbureau weekly meeting

(Continued from page 1)

Herbert Miles, on the other hand, was laid on the unending solidarity of Soviet Communists with the German Communist Party, which took as the lineal traditions of the German working class movement and on the importance of consistent fight for the interests of the working people, as well as its struggle against the policies of monopolies, militarism and revanchism.

The meeting heard a report by Nikolai Tikhonov and by Kuznetsov on their talks with parliamentary delegation of the Greek Republic led by parliament chairman Ioannis Argyrakis. They expressed satisfaction with the consistent development of traditional friendly Soviet-Greek relations and confirmed the desire of the USSR to strengthen political, economic and cultural cooperation with Greece in the interests of our people's cause of peace and world unity.

The Politbureau also considered and passed resolutions on several other issues.

RESPONSE 'WAR AGAINST UNIVERSITIES'

Palestinian culture! When they hear this they immediately grab a gun in Tel Aviv. This is no exaggeration. The other day Israeli army units destroyed an exhibition of Palestinian art at the Al-Najah National University in Nablus (West Bank of the Jordan River).

NAGASAKI:

ATOMIC BOMB

CONTINUES TO KILL

Tokyo. The names of another 237 persons have been added to the official list of those killed by the American atomic bomb which exploded over Nagasaki in August 1945.

Altogether there are 64,186 names in the list—only those whose deaths have been officially confirmed while names of dozens of thousands of other victims of the bomb still remain missing.

FACTS and EVENTS

A committee for an immediate referendum on Spain's membership of NATO has been set up in Madrid on the initiative of a group of prominent politicians and public figures.

The US foreign trade deficit for June 1984 was \$900 million dollars, according to the US Department of Commerce. The deficit for the first half of 1984 is \$9,000 million dollars.

Experts believe that the deficit for the current financial year will be in the region of \$12,000 million dollars, exceeding last year's figure by almost twice.

The Ministry of Education of Finland has allocated 250 million markkaa for the promotion of peace and détente.

A communiqué issued on the results of a visit paid to the People's Republic of Kampuchea by a French parliamentary delegation notes that French MPs highly prize the successes scored by Kampuchea in the restoration of its national economy and culture during the years following the deposition of the criminal Pol regime.

Then, the progressive Dashakishvili, have completed a massive 15-volume edition of their selected works.

PEOPLE

After much procrastination the Nevada State Court has returned an investigation of charges against Judge Osborne found guilty of links with the criminal world, bribery, and far evasion. As found at the trial, for several years he took bribes from the accused, which he sold occasionally for \$100,000 dollars.

Clayborne is not all that he found himself in the dock. He was also found guilty of a crime decision and an additional inquiry was ordered into the case. Moreover, despite multiple evidence, the justice department in Nevada dropped some of the charges referring to some interests of society.

Although the trial has raised the belief that Clayborne will be his dues. With coming to power of the current administration, the US legal police machine, just as in the past, has reached overwhelming proportions. The majority of officials charged with bribery are at large and even in their

vest, which opened the Palestine Culture Week. The punishment was cruel: dozens of students were put behind bars and the university was closed by the occupation authorities for four months.

The reprisals in Al-Najah represent the latest episode in the "war against universities" which Tel Aviv wages in the occupied Arab lands. The invaders do everything to disrupt the academic process, to paralyze the operation of the Palestinian educational establishments. Arrests among students, persecutions of professors (often under the pretext of their unwillingness to sign the humiliating certificate of loyalty to Israel), various financial obstacles—these are what the Zionist resort to. As a Palestinian professor told "Le Monde" newspaper, the Israeli Government tries to stop every activity in the university.

Since this is the only place where Palestinians can live and think independently.

The invaders persecute virtually all representatives of Palestinian intellectuals—artists, writers, musicians—the most educated section of the people, the keepers of their cultural traditions. Ancient monuments, manuscripts and archives dealing with the history of the Palestinian people are being either destroyed or stolen. Zionists are not squeamish about falsification representing at times Palestinians' folk clothes and music and their ethnic food as something that is "Israeli folk creations", as the Palestinian poet Samih al-Qasbi wrote recently.

Tel Aviv aims to suppress the national consciousness of the Palestinian people, to change their past in order to further their own expansionist goals.

Nikolai VALENTINOV

Science and technology

THE French Renault company is starting production of "Courtly" buses. At stops they will go "on their knees".

Two of the R-412 buses have already been manufactured and are undergoing tests. Their seating capacity is 124, and they are meant for municipal communication. Special pneumatic springs enable the bus "to kneel" going down by 8 cm. This makes boarding easier. In two years 200 of these "giant" buses will be running in Paris, Lyon, Marseilles and other French cities.

REANIMATED FOSSILS

A colony of mollusks from the genus of nautilus has been discovered off the shores of Papua-New Guinea at a depth of 300 metres. Until now they had been considered extinct for some 570 million years. These mollusks were named nautilus in 1786 when scientists got their

fossilized shell. But recently a collector and connoisseur of local shells on Manus Island in the Pacific said that the waves were frequently casting ashore quite "fresh" shells of mollusks.

After that two American scientists started searches and found a whole colony of mollusks.

Romanian scientists have conducted comprehensive studies into the possibilities of making volcanic rocks, specifically rhyolites, useful to the national economy. The results of their experiments have shown that rhyolites exert considerable biostimulating influence on the growth of such agricultural crops as maize, potatoes, hop and tomatoes.

Scientists have also established that these minerals can serve as a major source of increasing potassium, magnesium, ferrum and other important microelements in soil. They also have stimulating impact on domestic animals, poultry and even fishes.

PAN-AFRICAN NEWS AGENCY: GROWING MORE ACTIVE

Dakar. Maximum popularizing latest scientific and technological achievements—this is one of the most important tasks, that has been set before the Pan-African News Agency (PANA) and the African countries' mass media. This is the conclusion arrived at by the international seminar on problems of scientific and technological information in Africa that was held here.

In the conclusive document the representatives of 20 African states and of some international organizations stressed the need of a wider use of PANA's information possibilities to speed up the social-economic development on the continent. The seminar said regular exchange with active and technological news will contribute towards a rise of agricultural and industrial production, progress in health services and education. The seminar stressed the need of a deeper cooperation among the countries of the continent in their scientific research.

PANA will soon begin to issue special information bulletins on the most important issues of development, the meeting was told by the PANA Director Ousmane Diallo. They include publications on problems of economic development, health and drought-control.

financial departments and finally, professional football players.

Sauna museum
A Finnish sauna museum has been set up in Finland. Various models of sauna belonging to different periods, the oldest dating back to 1764, are displayed over an area of about ten hectares.

Shaping a classroom like a trapeze
The French architect Leopold Viotjeux is of the opinion that the traditional classroom shape of the classical rectangle is not altogether obligatory. He has

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FROM the SOVIET PRESS

"WASHINGTON'S DANGEROUS ILLUSIONS"

"Washington's dangerous illusions" is the headline of an article about USA, published in PRAVDA.

By designing long-range cruise missiles, writes the newspaper, Washington would like to create a new threat to the security of the Soviet Union and other states, to have in its arsenal an additional weapon to deliver the first nuclear strike.

But the US administration, continues the newspaper, has grossly miscalculated. Its plans of getting the upper hand over the Soviet Union, including superiority in long-range cruise missiles, are not only dangerous, but also illusory.

According to the article in "Pravda", since the USA did not want as it had been repeatedly suggested by the USSR, to give up this new type of weapon, long-range cruise missiles are already being tested in the USSR, too. As for the "ozymuths" along which the Pentagon plans to launch the weapons, the American strategists should not think that they exist only with relation to the USSR. In the east and west, in the north and south there are enough ozymuths leading to the territory of the USA.

WHO IS AGAINST MIDDLE EAST SETTLEMENT?

In making its proposals for settling the Arab-Israeli crisis the Soviet Union is guided by a desire for a just and durable peace in the Middle East and elimination of the volatile situation there, writes IZVESTIA. It is a fact that at the present moment most of the parties to the conflict agree with the principles and approach to the solution of the problem outlined in the Soviet document, as do those involved in it indirectly. This is confirmed, too, by the decisions of the Pecos-Arab summit and recent consultations held by UN Secretary-General J. Perez de Cuellar on a possible international conference on the Middle East.

The only countries opposed to that are the USA and Israel—the first hoping to fish in muddy waters and the second owing to its Zionist ambitions and clearly contrary to the basic interests of its people, the newspaper points out.

ISLAMABAD'S MILITARY AMBITIONS

The Pentagon is building military bases in Pakistan to develop cruise and Pershing-2 missiles, writes KRASNAYA ZVEZDA citing a number of foreign sources. Political observers note that this will allow the USA to have in its firing sights a huge area from Southern India to the Persian Gulf.

By making its stake on Islamabad, Washington proceeds from this regime's hostile attitude towards some neighbouring countries. It has been doing its utmost fanning out Islamabad's militarist ambitions. Out of the 3,200 million dollars of the American aid a considerable part is spent to buy latest US arms.

Islamabad's militarist ambitions line the Pakistan over closer to the hegemonistic and aggressive line of the US administration. But the development of the internal political situation in that country shows that the role of a vehicle of this line that is being thrust upon it by the United States does not meet the national interests of the Pakistan people. Mass actions continue to take place in Pakistan, demanding, among other things, a principled implementation of the policy of non-alignment, and cooperation with all states.

ROBOTS VS MAN

Assessing the effects of the introduction of robotics in the West, EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA points out that already now robots may replace nearly three-fourths of the workers in the US manufacturing industry, specifically in auto-making, which is the biggest user of robots. 20 per cent of workers would be replaced in assembly work there by 1985, and by 1990 the production and wide introduction of sensor robots will make it possible to completely replace assembly workers in the industry. The introduction of micro-electronic technology in West Germany in the 80s will take jobs away from some 2,000,000 people, at the current 2,000,000 unemployment level.

The current stage of the automation of production, which enables practically a complete replacement of man in most processes and arduous jobs, leads to further mass unemployment and merciless exploitation of the "huckles" still surviving on the job in the West, the newspaper points out. The phasing in of robots gives capital a new source of extra profit and an effective tool of pressure against the working class and the trade unions.

STOLEN TREASURES

RETURNED TO MUSEUM

Kabul. Afghanistan's security men have come across a cache. In a private flat in Kabul, containing numerous objects of historical value ready to be smuggled abroad. Among the items found were ancient sculpture, cuneiform tablets, Damascus blades, jewelry and ancient arms.

It was established that part of the above valuables had been stolen from the Kabul National Museum some four years ago during a fire caused by counter-revolutionary action. All the items have now been returned to the museum and will soon be back on view.

Unusual hobby

The world's biggest collection of miniature trains belongs to Antonio Colucci, from Italy. He began collecting at the age of 8 and today, after 60 years, has managed to accumulate more than 10,000 models, steam and diesel locomotives, passenger and Pullman cars, and goods trucks. The most valuable exhibit is a small train made in 1880.

VIEWPOINT

Vitaly MAYIN

POWER POLITICS BOOMERANGING

At the June 1982 conference of the seven leading capitalist countries in Versailles, President Reagan said that if the capitalist countries pushed, People's Poland and the entire socialist world would fall.

So Washington engaged in pushing, together with its allies, first-strike weapons—the American Pershing-16 and cruise missiles—found their way into Western Europe. The "star war" plan has been made public while the Reagan administration tries to pound out of the US Congress more allocations for modernizing its chemical arsenal.

But Washington's tactic is not limited to crude pressure alone. Ideological subversion and psychological warfare against the peoples of socialist countries became its Trojan Horse. On the orders of the State Department and sometimes even direct instructions from the president and his office, the American mass media tried to convince the Soviet people of imagined "imperfectness and instability" of the socialist economic system. It is noteworthy that those years co-

incided with another crisis of the world capitalist system. Washington attempted to pass over its economic woes to other nations. Then in a main attempt to push the USSR into the corner in the struggle of the two world systems, the White House resorted to another series of so-called sanctions.

And what was the outcome? The sanctions did, on the contrary, help the Soviet Union. As the English proverb goes "The worst men often give the best advice".

The sanctions affected gas compressor stations which the USSR had planned to import but the Soviet Union mastered their production in no time. Soviet engineers are now experienced in this field too. The losers were the American companies who had signed million-dollar contracts with Soviet foreign trade organizations. Besides, the Americans annexed their Western partners. West European branches of American companies would not follow the sanctions policy and stuck to their obligations. Gas

flowed from Western Siberia to Western Europe along the export gas pipeline.

US propaganda was unable to prove either to Americans or to anyone else that the Soviet economy can be disorganized through the arms race. The export gas pipeline is not the only case in and other economic projects will be put into operation ahead of schedule. In 1982 the Soviet Union's industrial production growth was 1.3 times higher than in the two previous years. Productivity went up by 3.5 per cent in the same year.

On the whole, the average economic growth rates in the countries of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance were twice as high during the past decade than economic growth in the developed capitalist countries. Today's hobby horse of the American propaganda is a somewhat living-up of the economic activity in the USA. This is an obvious fact which is not disputed in the USSR, but so also is the fact of the cyclic phenomena under capitalism: a

new recession will negate the upward trend of economic activity. So those who have received the long awaited job today cannot be sure of tomorrow.

The failure of the American propaganda attempts to ascribe weakness to the socialist economic system is supplemented with another strategic misfortune. The expected increase in the number of people in the West who are made to believe in the false allegation of Soviet aggressiveness did not materialize, though this is a routine topic of various radio stations, newspapers and magazines in the West.

The majority of West Europeans do not believe in the myth of Soviet military threat. This is why the Dutch, Belgians and Danes do not give their final approval to the deployment of cruise missiles on their territories, while Greeks, Italians, and West Germans became ever more resolute in their demand for dismantlement of US military bases.

The bellicose rhetoric of Reagan and his team has become considerably milder and the need for talks with Moscow is cited now in Washington. The aim of the current US anti-Soviet propaganda is to make Americans, threatened by the present administration's warlike posture, vote the Republicans into office for a second term. It is just one more ideological subversion—trying to deceive their own compatriots this time. Lies have long become a multipurpose weapons for Washington.

Explosions in Bay of Suez

Cairo. Several explosions have been registered in the Bay of Suez in the Red Sea, the next for ships sailing through the Suez Canal.

The head of the canal administration Izzat al-Hadi rejected claims by the Western press that the explosions were caused by mines laid over from the 1973 Middle East war. He also excluded possibility of explosive devices presence in the Suez Canal. According to available information, the charges that exploded were considerably less powerful than standard naval mines and had been planted not along the canal axis, but close towards the zone where sea oil deposits are being prospected for with assistance from Western firms.

The responsibility for the explosions in the Bay of Suez has been claimed by the clandestine Muslim organizations in Jihad, whose representative in the Bay is Agence France-Presse in a number of Middle Eastern countries, the organizations home country remains undisclosed.

Meanwhile, normal shipping has been restored both in the Suez Canal and in the adjacent sea areas.

The canal operator without interruptions and the number of ships passing through it has not decreased.

Round the Soviet Union

● A POWERFUL ORE-CARRYING SHIP NAMED AFTER NIKOLAI KUZNETSOV — A LEGENDARY WORLD WAR II HERO, HAS BEEN LAUNCHED AT THE "OKEAN" SHIPYARDS IN NIKOLAYEV. The 50,000-ton "Nikolai Kuznetsov" is the fourth ship in the new series.

● STUDENTS AND PROFESSORS OF THE KHABAROVSK INSTITUTE OF CULTURE RETURNED FROM THEIR EXPEDITION WITH RECORDINGS OF LOCAL FOLKLORE OF THE SOVIET FAR EAST. They studied the ethnic Olcha and Nivkh culture, including the Olcha Giva ensemble that performs folk melodies on a one-string birch-bark violin called sirpalka. It was rebuilt by the ensemble's leader Ivan Rougub on the basis of stories told by the elderly. It has been restored after old people's stories. The expedition material will be used for tutorials at the institute.

Bioenergetics for agriculture

Production of the fuel gas, methane, has begun at a bioenergetic plant in the Latvian "Ogre" dairy farm. So far the farm is the first in the country to build such a plant.

The plant produces 280 cubic metres of methane daily. It can be used for preparing fodder, for heating, it can also be used in internal combustion engines. In addition to methane, it produces carbon dioxide for boosting up growth and productivity of holocaust plants.

Besides, there are several bioenergetic by-products, such as methane-forming bacteria that are rich in proteins and vitamins. Finally, organic by-products turn out to be excellent fertilizer and manure, rich in nitrogen and phosphorus. Utilization of manure resolves the environmental protection problem of the farms.

There is a blueprint for a more powerful installation for production of a 2,400 cubic metres of fuel gas daily.

WATCHFUL EYE FOR THE SEA



The laser installation you see here is on board the "Svetlomo" ship used in evaluating the thickness of oil slicks. The "Svetlomo" is a multi-purpose floating complex for

laser in approaching the place of shipwreck, it will attempt to collect the oil slicks on the surface sweeping oil into its storage tanks with special devices. The ship does not wait till a tanker produces a leakage in the sea. It is used to clean the tanks of all oil ships coming to the port of Mytchevsk near Odessa.

Practically all major ports in the Soviet Union are equipped with the necessary facilities for fighting oil pollution and the cleaning of oil tanks.

All Soviet ships are provided with separators for cleaning their liquid wastes. Special floating garbage collectors are used for collecting polluted water and garbage to the shores. A special fleet of small ships has been set up to service seacoastal plants and to collect all garbage and polluted liquids from them, working like a vacuum cleaner.

Giant tanker

A new tanker the "Mikhailov", having November as a home port, has left for its maiden voyage. This 62,000-tonne tanker is 222.8-metre long, 32.2-metre wide, is capable of carrying 68,000 tonnes at a speed of 15 knots. It has been built at the Kerk Shipyards.

Despite its imposing size, it is very manoeuvrable to enter even through narrow canals. Its environmental safety.

A water conveyor

The latter and salted water of the Aral Sea can be drunk by the distillation stations which are built by electroengineering plant in Muz-Ara, in Central Asia.

Each installation distills 100 metres of water in 15 minutes within one hour. The efficiency is three times as high as that of the previous installations. One installation is used by only one person.

The new installations are used for extensive application in irrigating in arid zones. They also included in the supply systems of Kazakhstan and steel plants.

The rival of tufa

This is travertine. Big deposits of this limestone have been found in Armenia, in Transcaucasia. Travertine has been used as the republic's basic building material.

Travertine looks like marble. It is mined without difficulty and is easy to process. An industrial plant has already been put in operation which will annually produce 200,000 sq metres of travertine. First consignments have already been shipped to metro stations.

Soviet and Indian youth in the drive for peace

Indian youth think more of Soviet peace initiatives, and activities directed towards the prevention of a thermonuclear war and support the idea of holding the 12th World Festival of Youth and Students in Moscow in 1985, according to a communiqué issued after a visit to the USSR by an Indian youth delegation made up of representatives of ten leading youth and student organizations.

The delegation attended the Soviet-Indian seminar on "The contribution of Soviet and Indian youth to the strengthening and development of Soviet-Indian friendship and cooperation, the drive for peace and against the threat of nuclear war".

In an interview with the press D. Raju, vice-president of the All-India Youth Federation, said that the delegation was very impressed by preparations made so far by Soviet youth towards the 12th World Festival of Youth and Students. He said the delegation made a humble contribution to this course by picking up apples on a state farm. He said the Indian National Preparatory Committee was setting up committees in various states to prepare for the forthcoming festival.

Contributing to the interview R. Chentithala, president of the National Students Union of India, said that he was glad that the seminar was fruitful and that they could discuss vital problems in detail.

After hatching in sweet-water basins, the fry of various ages swim down to the ocean. Calico and humpback move at the age of one, while other varieties stay in sweet water for as long as three years. The instinct of coming back to the native reservoir is conditioned by the formation of local schools and the choice of ocean areas for fattening. Hence the particular importance of information about each school's habitat and migratory routes. Tagging helps to solve the problem.

This type of operation, being undertaken in conjunction with the annual census of the population of the sea, is of great importance for the conservation of the fish resources of the sea.

These animals are not very well known and the attitude to them is biased, despite the fact that throughout their history they have done nothing wrong; on the contrary, bats have proved to be indispensably useful. They destroy masses of bloodsucking and harmful insects. However, bats have been persecuted and their homes have been steadily destroyed. Out of 18 varieties of bats that have lived in the republic half have been included in the Red Data Book of disappearing flora and fauna. In some of the regions of Uzbekistan and Turkmenia the traditional shelters for wintering of the bats have been steadily destroyed.

In the new natural reserve research will be conducted to determine the role of these animals in the biocoenosis of the green natural region since there are no titles in nature.

Researchers will also try to find out where bats live in summer. Sometimes they travel far from their winter homes. In order to determine where these animals prefer to hibernate, bats are being captured. So far it has only been established that for wintering bats return steadily to habitually used places.

Urbanization fast changes the environment, the look of cities and villages. The desire to preserve for posterity tokens of life of former generations has necessitated open-air museums of unique wooden architecture.

Antony Mikhailov's drawings show windmills of several museums. Left to right:

A RETRO RALLY

An unusual motorcade is currently moving along Soviet roads in the Paris-Moscow-Paris rally sponsored by the Dutch club Traction-Avant. The event involves 121 old Citroëns built between 1935 and 1957.

One of the club's activists Will de Heek told the press at the intermediary finish in Moscow that fifty years ago, a French driver Francois Lecoq drove from Paris to Moscow and back in a newly built Citroën model and so owners of old Citroëns decided to mark 50 years of Lecoq's travel.

He said that the initial idea was to involve four cars in the rally but more French, West Ger-



Will de Heek (left) and friends interrupted their repairs for this memorable photo. Photo by Alexei Pyrdorov

man, British, Swiss and Italian motorists volunteered. There are motorists from other countries as well; altogether the rally involves 350 volunteers, many of them taking along their wives and children.

Will de Heek stated that they were all very happy about the journey and the hospitality of the Soviet people. Despite the fact that the route is rather long for the old cars, they all reached Moscow safely.

Science and technology

SOVIET AND U.S.

ICHTHYOLOGISTS COOPERATE

Soviet and American scientists are carrying out joint research in the north-western Pacific under an international programme. The purpose is to preserve Pacific salmon and work out a scientifically based catch policy. Scientists use a special purse seine to preserve the vitality of the study of the specimens. They are next placed into a special reservoir with sea water, measured, and tagged.

After hatching in sweet-water basins, the fry of various ages swim down to the ocean. Calico and humpback move at the age of one, while other varieties stay in sweet water for as long as three years. The instinct of coming back to the native reservoir is conditioned by the formation of local schools and the choice of ocean areas for fattening. Hence the particular importance of information about each school's habitat and migratory routes. Tagging helps to solve the problem.

This type of operation, being undertaken in conjunction with

Japanese and Canadian researchers, is growing in scale. Data on the caught tagged fish go to the Pacific Institute of Fisheries and Oceanography in Vladivostok, USSR, as well to the other three countries.

SCIENTISTS

DISCOVER HOW

MUMIYO IS FORMED

Soviet scientists continue to explore the properties of mumiyo (from Persian "mum" for wax), an extremely rare natural balsam. Recently scientists in Kirghizia, a republic in Soviet Central Asia, have found out how mumiyo is formed. Work is now under way to obtain the substance in laboratory conditions.

After many years of research it has been established that mumiyo is a powerful biostimulator which intensifies the biological functions of a living organism.

We have come to the conclusion, says Arstanbek Altymyshev, Corresponding Member of the Kirghiz Academy of Sciences, that mumiyo is an organic matter, a product of herbivorous animals' metabolism. Rarefied air, sharp temperature rises and falls, intensive solar radiation and low humidity of soil con-

siderably lower the activity of microorganisms which lead to the breakdown of organic remains. In time the biomass becomes mummified and polymerized and increases its physiological activity. We have discovered the animal that takes part in the "mummification" of this natural balsam. It is a rodent, the mountain silver vole. One such mouse (they can be bred in cages) produces up to 1.5 grammes of mumiyo a day.

To test the validity of our conclusions we carried out a laboratory experiment. Plants that grow in areas where mumiyo has been found, were included, in the vole's diet. We finally succeeded in obtaining a dark glistening substance which on analysis was found to possess the same properties and pharmacological effects as natural mumiyo.

Medical experts have established, the Academician added, that for treatment of one open infected fracture of the femur 7.5 g of mumiyo are needed. This means that a single mountain vole can produce enough mumiyo to cure hundreds of patients.

Of course, the scientists said in conclusion, our explanation of the origins of mumiyo is much more prosaic than the numerous legends that have surrounded the issue up to now. But it is scientifically grounded.

VIEWPOINT

NEW DEVELOPMENTS FOR RAILWAYS

Alexei DAROV

● "Project of the century" — the Balkan-Anatolian (BAA) Railway whose basic track is 3,509 km long will be completed one year before the schedule and will be opened for traffic by November 7, 1984.

● The Moscow-Leningrad railway (550 km) is the world's only instance of successful running three pairs of passenger express (100-200 km/h) along with a heavy cargo traffic.

● The Soviet railwaymen have been the first in the world to drive a cargo supertrain weighing over 30 thousand tonnes.

The above reports from the Soviet press show the new things that have appeared in the Soviet railway transport.

Special attention to the development of this transport is a tradition with this country. Given the total length of 143 thousand kilometres, amounting for only 11 per cent of the world's railways, it handles 53 per cent of the world cargo and 25 per cent of the passenger transportation in the world. The USSR leads the world in the level of electrification of its railway network as well. Cargo cars' productivity, its average daily run over the Soviet railways is almost three times as high as in the USA and 4 to 8 times higher than in a number of European countries. But this is still insufficient for the present-day Soviet economy. Its accelerated and intensive development, particularly in the eastern regions of the country, provides the chief incentive for further improvement and development of the railway transport. Efficiency is another important factor in favour of this energy consumption for delivering cargoes by rail is 10 to 15 times lower than by automobile, and 100 to 120 times lower than by air for passenger carriages.

While in the 11th Five-Year Plan period (1981-85) the total capital investment growth into economy is 16 per cent, railways' figures are over 30 per cent. Basic directions in the development of railway transport are represented by improving haulage management, mechanization and automation, trailers, greater weights and speeds, further electrification of the railways, introduction of more powerful locomotives.

New railways are also built, of course. For 1984 it is planned to put into operation over 300 km of new railways. Besides the major BAM project, Siberia builds the Surgut-Urengoi-Vogelovo line of 650 km and the Anzheroskaya-Barzans main line. Several major railways are being built in the Transcaucasia, and in other regions of this country.

About 5.3 thousand kilometres of railways will be electrified in 1981-85. The percentage of electric traction will grow by the end of 1985 to 60 per cent from the present 32.8 per cent. About 13 thousand kilometres of railways will be equipped with automatic lockouts and centralized dispatcher services.

The most important factor in raising the labour productivity is found, however, in a greater average weight of each train. The prospects are that about 60 per cent of the haulage growth will be effected through increasing the train weight, the remaining 40 per cent to be achieved through more intensive traffic.

FROM THE SOVIET PRESS

MAGNETOHYDRODYNAMICS FOR POWER OF TOMORROW

At the present time a great part of the world's energy is generated by thermal plants burning organic fuels, writes the magazine SCIENCE IN USSR. At the same time, the efficiency even of the most advanced thermal power stations does not go beyond 40 per cent. The rest of the energy, almost two-thirds of it, is lost out into the environment as heat. In this way, fuel resources are not only being depleted but the atmosphere also becomes polluted. According to the magazine, increasing the efficiency of power plants by only one per cent would save three million tonnes of fuel annually, hence the interest researchers take in looking for new energy sources. One promising way is direct conversion of heat into electricity using the magnetohydrodynamic principle (MHD). Soviet engineers have been involved in MHD energy production since the 1960s. The world's first pilot installation, the U-25, with an MHD generator is now in operation, and construction of the world's first commercial MHD power unit for the Ryazan thermal power station (500 megawatts) has begun. Such stations will save 20-25 per cent of fuel, as against the conventional types, writes the magazine. The construction of the first power unit will be completed in the second half of the 1980s, after which similar power units of 1,000 megawatts will be put into operation, making rational use of the tremendous coal deposits in the country. Soviet power engineers also plan to build coal-fired MHD plants. According to the magazine, the first of such projects using Kuznetsk and Kansk-Achinsk coal would probably go into operation in the early 1990s.

CRANES OVER OLD CITY AREAS

IZVESTIA writes about a new crane specially designed for face-lifting operations in Leningrad. Central Leningrad is a huge complex of architectural monument. Many buildings have naturally become old but ordinary construction cranes cannot be easily and safely installed. This is why the Leningrad mechanical engineering plant has designed a special crane for restoration of buildings. Its boom is ten metres longer, its lifting capacity two tonnes larger, and the assembly yard twice as small because the crane performs its own assembly operations.

The KBR-1 crane has been awarded a gold medal of the Exhibition of Economic Achievements of the USSR. There are over 30 such cranes in Leningrad currently in operation, which have already saved half a million rubles.

WHAT MAKES A FILM 'LIVE'

Statistics notes a certain drop in the number of cinemagoers. One reason may be the depletion of the films' emotional impact, writes in SOVIETSKAYA KULTURA the well-known Soviet producer Yevgeny Gublitovich.

Many films are set out on the screen in a flat, lengthy, cold, and, I would say, detached manner. It is a flat field, with no chances either of climbing or of tumbling. But not only the cinema maker but the viewer too should climb and tumble. Otherwise he will be placid, polite and impassive, so all the efforts of the scriptwriter, the producer and the cast become futile.

Capturing the soul, introducing into the viewer's blood the bacteria of art. Without this "disease" everything rests breathless. Is it not strange that we, so particular in our evaluation of the script at its various stages, think so little of its impact on the emotional side.

Educating the viewer? Yes. Suggesting to him the real social and moral notions? Of course. But not

through drilled examples of vices and virtues. Education by art becomes possible only when hearts are emotionally moved and won over.

We need truthfulness. Reality of conflict, plot and the heroes. Truthfulness of a film maker's tone. I would say, confidentially, heartiness. So that the viewer should look back at himself from the screen, should experience all that he views as something that belongs to him, something that is dear to him and burning. Even when the film's plot is separated from him, possibly by ages.

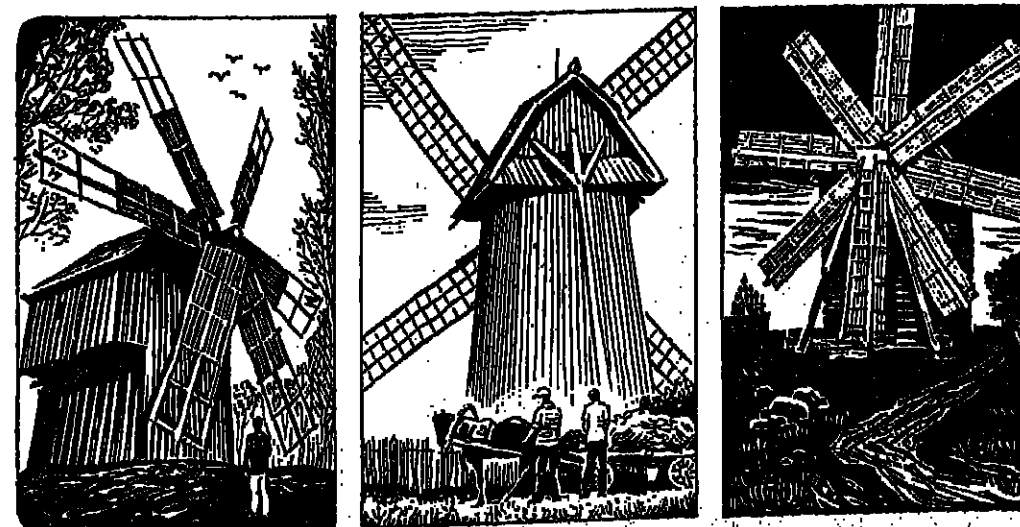
SECRETS OF FOLK MEDICINE

Folk medicine makes extensive use of the properties of plants. But which plants are widely used in various parts of the world? The answer has been provided through research conducted by Soviet scientists. From the selected about one thousand varieties of flora in the Soviet Far East, they processed on computer information on their use in various countries, writes the NAR-KAI ZHIZN (Science and Life) magazine.

It turned out to be that plants possessing tonic, expelling and antipyretic properties are widely used in expelling and antipyretic. American Indians prefer plants with antidote and purgative properties while natives of folk medicine in Siberian and West European regions would rather use wound-healing plants. Geographical proximity does not always account for similarity in plant healing methods. In this sense faraway Tibet has turned out to be much closer to the Europe of the USSR than neighbouring Western Asia.

Computer has provided the botanists and doctors with another type of useful information too, confirms the magazine. They have established which diseases various peoples prefer to treat with herbal medicines. Experiences accumulated over the thousands of years by other peoples can now be used by Soviet scientists to enrich Soviet pharmacology with new efficient natural drugs.

OPEN-AIR MUSEUMS



Urbanization fast changes the environment, the look of cities and villages. The desire to preserve for posterity tokens of life of former generations has necessitated open-air museums of unique wooden architecture.

Antony Mikhailov's drawings show windmills of several museums. Left to right:

- A museum of folk architecture in Lvov. An early 20th-century windmill in the village of Shlyvsky (Lvov Region).
- A windmill in Mikhailovskaya (Pskov Region).
- A 19th-century windmill in the Kizhi architectural preserve.

